

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 9 and 14 as indicated.

Please cancel Claims 2, 10-12 and 15-17 without prejudice and without disclaimer of subject matter.

1. (Currently amended) An object recognition system comprising:
a visible light source;
a light source controller configured to provide a substantially continuously variable control of an illumination level of said visible light source in response to ambient light on a human face to achieve adjust contrast on a said human face to capture an light-corrected image thereof;
a camera configured to capture said image of said human face illuminated by said visible light source; and
a computer configured to compare data representative of said light-corrected image to stored image data.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously presented) The object recognition system of claim 1, wherein said light source controller comprises a light sensor, and wherein said light source controller is configured to control an illumination level of said visible light source in response to a level of ambient light imparted on said light sensor.
4. (Original) The object recognition system of claim 3, wherein said light source controller comprises a switch and wherein said level of said ambient light imparted on said light sensor controls a state of said switch to control said illumination level of said light source.

5. (Original) The object recognition system of claim 4, wherein said controller further comprises at least one relay, and wherein said state of said switch controls a state of said at least one relay to control said illumination level of said light source.

6. (Original) The object recognition system of claim 4, wherein said controller further comprises a dimmer, and wherein said state of said switch controls a resistance of said dimmer to control said illumination level of said light source.

7. (Original) The object recognition system of claim 4, wherein said switch comprises a transistor.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A method of illuminating a human face in an object recognition system, said method comprising:

providing a substantially continuously variable controlling of an illumination level of a visible light source in response to ambient light on directed toward said human face to achieve adjust contrast on said human face to capture an light-corrected image thereof.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A method of controlling access of a person to a secure area, said method comprising:

detecting an ambient light level ~~in an area proximate to~~ on a face of said person;
~~in response to detecting said ambient light, setting~~ providing a substantially continuously
variable control of an illumination level for said face, the illumination level sufficient to achieve contrast on said face to capture an image thereof;

illuminating said face at said illumination level;
operating a camera to capture an image of at least a portion of said face;
comparing data representative of said image to stored image data; and
allowing access of said person to said secure area in response to said comparing of said image to said stored image data.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)